Adult Health in Lyon County
Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota (Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine counties). Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet provides an overview of survey results of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015. It was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP), which aims to help Minnesotans live longer, healthier lives by reducing the burden of chronic disease.

In the following report, when it is stated that respondents’ answers to a survey item increased or decreased, this refers to a change of 10 percentage points or more in respondents’ answers from the 2010 to the 2015 county survey. Similarly, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the county compared to the 16-county region or in Minnesota, this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

**Overall health**

Based on a scale that ranks from excellent to poor, most Lyon County residents say their health is “very good” or “good.” Lyon County residents’ overall health ratings are comparable to the region and the state as a whole.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents’ Ratings of Their Overall Health</th>
<th>Lyon County (N=314)</th>
<th>16-county region (N=5,623)</th>
<th>MN statewide* (N=12,896)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Source: 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) MN data
**Obesity**

Respondents’ Body Mass Index, or BMI (which was calculated based on their self-reported height and weight), indicates that about three-fourths (73%) of Lyon County residents are overweight or obese. The percentage of Lyon County residents who are not overweight or obese is lower and the percentage of residents who are overweight or obese is higher than that of Minnesotans statewide. There have been no significant changes in the percentage of overweight and obese residents in Lyon County since 2010.

**RESPONDENTS’ BODY MASS INDEX**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010 Lyon County (N=393)</th>
<th>2015 Lyon County (N=317)</th>
<th>16-county region (N=5,410)</th>
<th>MN statewide* (N=13,450)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not overweight or obese</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight (but not obese)</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Source: 2013 BRFSS MN data

Although 34 percent of all Lyon County respondents are obese, 12 percent of Lyon County respondents have ever been told by a doctor or other health care professional that they are obese. Over half (56%) of respondents consider themselves to be about the right weight.

**Chronic health conditions**

Respondents were asked if they have ever been told by a health care provider that they have any of several chronic health conditions, all of which are related to poor nutrition, inadequate physical activity, or tobacco use. The data from this survey will serve as a baseline against which SHIP initiatives and related efforts can be evaluated for their impact on these chronic conditions, and associated factors, such as quality of life and health care costs.

The chart below shows the six most common chronic health conditions among adults in Lyon County.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TOLD BY A DOCTOR OR OTHER HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL THAT YOU HAVE...**

- **High cholesterol**: 27% (Lyon County) vs. 31% (MN statewide)*
- **Hypertension (high blood pressure)**: 25% (Lyon County) vs. 32% (MN statewide)*
- **Arthritis**: 19% (Lyon County) vs. 22% (MN statewide)*
- **Any mental health condition**: 16% (Lyon County) vs. 22% (MN statewide)*
- **Heart trouble or angina**: 11% (Lyon County) vs. 10% (MN statewide)*
- **Obese**: 11% (Lyon County) vs. 12% (MN statewide)*

* Source: 2013 BRFSS MN data

**Support provided by health care providers**

Eighty-three percent of respondents from Lyon County said they have seen a health care provider about their own health in the past 12 months.

Respondents who had visited a health care provider in the past year were asked if the provider talked with them about their physical activity, diet and nutrition, weight, tobacco use, stress, and mental health concerns. Since 2010, there has been an increase in the proportion of respondents who said they were asked about all of these health indicators. Stress and mental health concerns were not asked about on the 2010 survey. However, in 2015, 36 percent were asked about stress and mental health concerns.

The results indicate that, despite a significant improvement since 2010, a considerable proportion of adults do not recall speaking with their health care provider about any of these issues, which are related to prevention and maintenance of chronic diseases and conditions.
OF THOSE WHO VISITED A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, DID THE PROVIDER ASK ABOUT YOUR...

- Nutrition

Thirty-six percent of Lyon County residents ate five or more servings of fruits and vegetables on the day prior to taking the survey. While respondents report that there is a large selection of fruits and vegetables and that the fruits and vegetables are of high quality where they shop, over half (56%) of residents report that they are too expensive.

There have been no significant changes in fruit and vegetable consumption or beverage consumption since 2010.

Nearly all Lyon County respondents eat at least one home-cooked meal in a typical week, but only about half eat a home-cooked meal every day. However, since 2010, there has been an increase in the percentage of respondents in Lyon County who eat a home-cooked meal 7 or more times per week. Fifty-eight percent of respondents eat fast food at least once per week.

For more information about adult nutrition in Lyon County, please see the fact sheet on this topic.

- Physical activity

The recommended amount of physical activity per week for adults is at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on 5 or more days or at least 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity on 3 or more days. In Lyon County, 18 percent of respondents met both moderate and vigorous physical activity recommendations while 62 percent met neither.

Fifty-three percent of respondents reported over two hours of “screen time” (time spent watching TV or movies or using the computer for non-work purposes) per day), down from 75 percent in 2010.

Since 2010, respondents indicate an increase in availability and use of walking paths or trails and bike paths, shared use paths, and bike lanes. The biggest self-reported barriers to getting more physical activity are: lack of time, lack of self-discipline or willpower, and the cost of programs.

For more information about adult physical activity in Lyon County, please see the fact sheet on this topic.

- Tobacco use

Sixty-seven percent of Lyon County residents have never smoked, 25 percent no longer smoke, and 9 percent are current smokers. Since 2010, Lyon County residents are less likely to have stopped smoking for one day or longer because they were trying to quit. The most common and successful quitting method used was to quit without any assistance from nicotine-replacement medications, counseling, or other forms of quitting support.

For more information about adult tobacco use in Lyon County, please see the fact sheet on this topic.

- Alcohol use

Thirty-one percent of Lyon County residents reported they have engaged in binge drinking in the past 30 days (5+ drinks for males and 4+ drinks for females on an occasion). According to responses, 5 percent participate in heavy drinking (60+ drinks for males and 30+ drinks for females in the past 30 days). Respondents age 18-34 are more likely to participate in drinking, but not heavy drinking, than older respondents. Alcohol use in Lyon County is comparable to alcohol use in the 16-county region.

- Mental health

Eighteen percent of Lyon County residents have been told by a doctor that they have depression, 16 percent have been told they have anxiety or panic attacks, and 4 percent have been told they have other mental health problems. In the past year, nearly 1 in 10 respondents...
said that they did not get or delayed getting needed mental health care.

For more information about mental health in Lyon County, please see the fact sheet on this topic.

Dental health

Almost three-quarters (71%) of Lyon County residents reported that they had their last dental exam or teeth cleaning within the past year. Nearly one-quarter (21%) of respondents said that during the past 12 months, there was a time when they needed dental care, but did not get it or delayed getting it. The most common reasons for not getting dental care were because it cost too much and they did not have insurance.

For more information about dental health in Lyon County, please see the fact sheet on this topic.

Distracted or impaired driving

The majority of Lyon County residents make or answer phone calls while they are driving and nearly half do other activities such as eat, read, apply makeup, or shave.

WHEN DRIVING A CAR OR OTHER VEHICLE, HOW OFTEN DO YOU... (N=296-302)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>_activity</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>N/A (I don’t have a cell phone)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make or answer a phone call</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do other activities such as eat, read, apply makeup, or shave</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send text messages or emails</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read incoming text messages or emails</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive when you have perhaps had too much to drink</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Methods

The survey was conducted by mail. Households were randomly selected using Address-Based Sampling, and the “most recent birthday” method of within-household respondent selection was used to randomly select one adult from each sampled household. Incentives were not offered to participate in this survey. A total of 1,200 people in Lyon County were invited to participate and 339 completed the survey, for a response rate of 28 percent. This results in a sampling error of +/- 7 percent. Survey respondents are representative of the adult population of Lyon County. Post-stratification weighting was used, based on gender and age, to ensure representativeness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent characteristics (weighted)</th>
<th>Lyon County (N=339)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-34</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75+</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than HS diploma, no GED</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma or GED</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college/trade school or associate degree</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $20,000</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $34,999</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 - $49,999</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 - $74,999</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 or more</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information

This summary presents findings from the Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about this report, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research. For access to other reports, visit http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/

Authors: Anna Bartholomay and Nicole MartinRogers

APRIL 2016
Adult Dental Health in Lyon County
Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the dental health of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the following report, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the county compared to the 16-county region, this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

**Current dental care**

Nearly three-quarters (71%) of Lyon County respondents reported that they had their last dental exam or teeth cleaning within the past year.

**Barriers to accessing dental care**

Twenty-one percent of respondents from Lyon County reported that during the past 12 months, there was a time they needed dental care but did not get it or delayed getting it. There is no difference in delayed dental care between the county and region.
Of those who did not get or delayed getting dental care in the past 12 months, the most common reasons were because it cost too much and because they did not have insurance.

**REASONS FOR NOT GETTING OR DELAYING DENTAL CARE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Lyon County (N=59)</th>
<th>16-county region (N=1,030)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It cost too much</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not have insurance</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I could not get an appointment</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was too nervous or afraid</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The dentist would not accept my insurance</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not know where to go</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had transportation problems</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other reason</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Compared with the region…**

Overall, there is no significant difference between the dental health of Lyon County residents compared to the dental health of residents of the region.
Adult Mental Health in Lyon County  
Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the mental health of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the following report, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the county compared to the 16-county region, this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

**Mental health history**

Eighteen percent of Lyon County residents have been told by a doctor that they have depression. Sixteen percent have been told they have anxiety or panic attacks, and 4 percent have been told they have other mental health problems.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TOLD BY A DOCTOR THAT YOU HAD...**

- Depression: 18% (Lyon County) vs. 17% (16-county region)
- Anxiety or panic attacks: 16% (Lyon County) vs. 14% (16-county region)
- Other mental health problems: 4% (both counties)

**Barriers to accessing mental health care**

Nine percent of Lyon County residents said that they did not get or delayed getting mental health care when they wanted to talk or seek help in the past year.

**OF THOSE WHO FELT THEY NEEDED TO TALK TO SOMEONE - RESPONDENTS WHO DID NOT GET OR DELAYED GETTING MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS**

- Lyon County (N=331)
- 16-county region (N=5,787)

When asked about reasons for not getting or delaying mental health care, the number of Lyon County residents who answered was not large enough to be conclusive. Below is data from the 16-county region.

**REASONS FOR NOT GETTING OR DELAYING MENTAL HEALTH CARE**

- I did not think it was serious enough: 48% (16-county region)
- It cost too much: 31% (16-county region)
- I was too nervous or afraid: 30% (16-county region)
- I did not know where to go: 22% (16-county region)
- My insurance did not cover it: 10% (16-county region)
- I did not have insurance: 9% (16-county region)
- I could not get an appointment: 6% (16-county region)
- I had transportation problems: 2% (16-county region)
- Other reason: 21% (16-county region)
Survey respondents who had seen a doctor, nurse, or other health professional about their own health in the past 12 months were asked whether they were asked by their health professional about a series of topics. Thirty-six percent said their doctor asked them about their stress and 36 percent were asked about mental health concerns.

**Compared with the region…**

Overall, the mental health of residents in Lyon County is comparable to the mental health of residents in the region. However, the response rate is not high enough to understand with confidence the reasons why Lyon County residents do not get or delay mental health care.

---

For more information

This summary presents findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about the survey, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research, 651-280-2682. For access to other reports, visit [http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/](http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/)

Authors: Monzong Cha, Anna Bartholomay, and Nicole MartinRogers

APRIL 2016
Adult Nutrition in Lyon County
Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the nutrition habits of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the reporting of results that follows, when it is stated that respondents’ answers to a survey item increased or decreased, this is referring to a change of 10 percentage points or more in respondents’ answers from the 2010 to the 2015 county survey.

Eating habits

Fruits and vegetables
The CDC recommends that most adults eat five or more servings of fruits and vegetables every day. On the day prior to taking the survey, over one-third of Lyon County residents ate five or more servings of fruits and vegetables. Unfortunately, 2015 data regarding fruit and vegetable consumption is not comparable to 2010 data due to question wording.

Beverages
Soda consumption has been linked to lower levels of calcium in the body, which is a contributing factor in osteoporosis in adults and broken bones in children. Many sodas have large amounts of caffeine, and regular soda has approximately 150 calories per serving, with no nutritional value. In addition, the high amount of sugar in regular soda has become a health concern. Thirty-six percent of Lyon County residents drank regular soda on the day prior to taking the survey. Since 2010, the proportion of respondents who drank milk the day prior to taking the survey has decreased.

Eating out and eating in
Over one-half of Lyon County residents eat fast food at least once in a typical week. About half (49%) eat at least once per week at a restaurant that is not fast food. The vast majority of residents who eat out do so only once or twice per week.
Nearly all of Lyon County residents eat at least one home-cooked meal in a typical week, but only half (52%) eat a home-cooked meal every day. Seventeen percent of Lyon County residents watch TV while eating a meal daily, while 24 percent of residents never watch TV while eating a meal. All of these factors are related to the degree to which an individual is likely to meet their nutritional needs.

### EATING OUT AND EATING IN ONE TIME OR MORE IN AN AVERAGE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal Type</th>
<th>2015 (N=325-328)</th>
<th>2010 (N=390-401)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fast food</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sit-down restaurant food</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home-cooked meal</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Access to nutritious food

One focus of the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) is to increase access to community resources and support by improving policies, systems, and environments. Nutrition and healthy eating is a key focus area of SHIP.

### Grocery shopping

Ninety-eight percent of residents agree with the statement, “There is a large selection of fresh fruits and vegetables where I usually shop.” And 89 percent of residents agree that “The fresh fruits and vegetables where I usually shop are of high quality.” However, 56 percent of residents also agree with the statement, “The fresh fruits and vegetables where I shop are too expensive.”

Ten percent of Lyon County residents travel more than 20 miles (one way) to get their groceries. Most respondents reported shopping for groceries at a supermarket or large grocery store once a week or more often.

During the growing season, about half of Lyon County residents get food from a home or community garden, but far fewer get food from farmers markets and Community Supported Agriculture.

### Food insecurity

Eleven percent of Lyon County residents reported that in the past 12 months they often or sometimes worried that their food would run out before they had money to buy more, and 7 percent said that they had used a community food shelf program in the past 12 months.

---

For more information

This summary presents findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about the survey, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research, 651-280-2682. For access to other reports, visit [http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/](http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/)

Authors: Anna Bartholomay and Nicole MartinRogers
APRIL 2016
Adult Physical Activity in Lyon County
Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the physical activity of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the following report, when it is stated that respondents’ answers to a survey item increased or decreased, this refers to a change of 10 percentage points or more in respondents’ answers from the 2010 to the 2015 county survey. Similarly, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the county compared to the 16-county region this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

**Current levels of physical activity**

Regular physical activity helps improve one’s overall health and fitness and reduces the risk of chronic disease. The recommended amount of physical activity per week for adults is at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on 5 or more days or at least 20 minutes of vigorous physical activity on 3 or more days.

In Lyon County, 18 percent of respondents met both moderate and vigorous physical activity recommendations while 62 percent met neither. Additionally, 16 percent of respondents said they did not participate in any physical activity or exercise other than their regular job in the past 30 days.

**Screen time**

When asked about daily “screen time” – total time spent watching TV and using the computer for non-work-related purposes such as surfing the internet or social networking – over half (53%) of respondents reported over 2 hours of screen time per day, a decrease from 75 percent in 2010. Twenty-one percent of respondents reported 1 hour or less of screen time per day.

**Barriers to physical activity**

The biggest self-reported barriers to getting physical activity are: lack of time, lack of self-discipline or will power, and the cost of fitness programs. These are the same top barriers that were reported in 2010.
RESPONDENTS' BARRIERS TO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (N=241-319)

- Lack of time: 46% small problem, 26% big problem
- Lack of self-discipline or will power: 46% small problem, 23% big problem
- The cost of fitness programs, gym membership, or admission fees: 35% small problem, 26% big problem
- No one to exercise with: 37% small problem, 10% big problem
- Public facilities are not available at the times I want to use them: 21% small problem, 8% big problem
- Sidewalks/paths/trails being icy or not shoveled: 20% small problem, 9% big problem
- Lack of programs, leaders, or facilities: 21% small problem, 5% big problem
- Long-term illness, injury or disability: 3% small problem, 22% big problem
- Distance I have to travel to a place where I can be physically active: 17% small problem, 5% big problem
- Poor maintenance of sidewalks or walking paths/trails: 16% small problem, 5% big problem
- No sidewalks or walking paths/trails: 1% small problem, 3% big problem
- No safe place to exercise: 1% small problem, 15% big problem
- Other reasons: 4% small problem

Access to community resources

Respondents were asked about their access to and use of various public amenities. Most residents live in communities that have a limited variety of resources for physical activity. The most commonly used resources are walking paths or trails, parks or sport fields, and bicycle paths. Since 2010, Lyon County residents’ use of walking paths and trails and bicycle paths has increased.

RESPONDENTS' ACCESS TO AND USE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (N=253-306)

- Walking paths or trails: 53% My community has this and I use it, 38% My community has this but I do not use it, 10% My community does not have this
- Parks or sports fields: 49% My community has this and I use it, 48% My community has this but I do not use it, 3% My community does not have this
- Bicycle paths/lanes or shared use paths: 44% My community has this and I use it, 49% My community has this but I do not use it, 8% My community does not have this
- Health club, fitness/wellness center, or gym: 33% My community has this and I use it, 56% My community has this but I do not use it, 11% My community does not have this
- Public swimming pools or water parks: 30% My community has this and I use it, 58% My community has this but I do not use it, 12% My community does not have this
- Nearby waterways for water-related activities: 29% My community has this and I use it, 49% My community has this but I do not use it, 22% My community does not have this
- Public recreation centers: 27% My community has this and I use it, 55% My community has this but I do not use it, 18% My community does not have this
- Schools, colleges, or universities that are open for public use: 14% My community has this and I use it, 62% My community has this but I do not use it, 24% My community does not have this
- Shopping mall or store for physical activity: 13% My community has this and I use it, 58% My community has this but I do not use it, 29% My community does not have this

Compared with the region...

Lyon County residents are more likely than residents of the region to have: 1) walking paths or trails, 2) bicycle paths, 3) shared use paths or bike lanes, 4) public recreation or community centers, 5) and shopping malls or stores for physical activity, but are less likely to have nearby waterways for water-related activities.

For more information

This summary presents findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about the survey, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research, 651-280-2882. For access to other reports, visit http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/

Authors: Anna Bartholomay and Nicole MartinRogers

APRIL 2016
The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the tobacco use of adult residents in Lyon County.

The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties’ grants from the Minnesota Department of Health’s Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the following report, when it is stated that respondents’ answers to a survey item increased or decreased, this refers to a change of 10 percentage points or more in respondents’ answers from the 2010 to the 2015 county survey. Similarly, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the county compared to the 16-county region this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

**Current tobacco use**

Sixty-seven percent of Lyon County residents have never smoked and 25 percent are former smokers. Nine percent of adults in Lyon County are current smokers.

**RESPONDENTS’ SMOKING STATUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Lyon County (N=331)</th>
<th>16-county region (N=5,782)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former smoker</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never smoked</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E-cigarettes**

Three percent of respondents said they are e-cigarette users. More than half (57%) of respondents reported ever having seen someone smoke an e-cigarette in Minnesota. Younger respondents (age 18-54) were more likely than older respondents (age 55+) to have ever seen someone smoking e-cigarettes (66% vs. 38%).

**Quitting**

Of the 34 percent who are current and former smokers, 46 percent said they had tried to quit within the past 12 months.

Of former and current smokers who had stopped smoking for one day or longer during the past 12 months because they were trying to quit, the most common and successful quitting method used was to quit without any assistance from nicotine replacement medications, counseling, or other forms of quitting support.
RESPONDENTS’ USE OF VARIOUS TOBACCO CESSATION METHODS (OF CURRENT AND FORMER SMOKERS WHO HAD TRIED TO QUIT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS)

“Quitting without any assistance” was more commonly used among successful quitters (those who are now former smokers and who quit within the past 12 months) than among unsuccessful quitters (current smokers who tried to quit at least once during the past 12 months).

Regarding methods for quitting smoking, since 2010 Lyon County residents have decreased their use of nicotine replacement products and prescription medication. Since 2010, Lyon County residents are less likely to have stopped smoking for one day or longer because they were trying to quit.

Exposure to smoking

Five percent of Lyon County respondents allow regular smoking in their homes (by themselves or someone else) compared with 8 percent of respondents from the region. Eight percent of Lyon County respondents report they rode in a vehicle with someone who was smoking in the past week and 25 percent say they were exposed to secondhand smoke in a public (outdoor) place in Minnesota during the past week.

Since 2010, exposure to secondhand smoke in cars or other vehicles has decreased.

RESPONDENTS’ EXPOSURE TO SECONDHAND SMOKE IN PAST 7 DAYS

Compared with the region…

There are no significant differences in tobacco use in Lyon County compared with tobacco use in the 16-county region.

For more information

This summary presents findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about the survey, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research, 651-280-2682. For access to other reports, visit http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/

Authors: Monzong Cha, Anna Bartholomay, and Nicole MartinRogers

APRIL 2016
# Adult Health in Lyon County

## 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. This fact sheet shows the key findings from Lyon County.

## NUTRITION AND EXERCISE

### Lyon County adult residents’ ratings of their overall health:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lyon County adult residents’ overall health ratings are comparable to the region and the state as a whole.

### 73% of adults in Lyon County are overweight

Based on self-reported height and weight, including:

- 34% who are obese

### 56% consider themselves to be about the right weight

### 36% ate five or more servings of fruits and vegetables on the day prior to taking the survey

### Did residents meet moderate and/or vigorous exercise recommendations?

- Both, 18%
- Moderate only, 9%
- Vigorous only, 11%
- Neither, 62%

## TOBACCO USE

- Currently smokers: 9%
- Have never smoked: 67%
- Former smokers: 25%

## OTHER

### 18% have been told by a doctor that they had depression

### 9% delayed or did not get mental health care when they felt they needed it in the past year

Supported by the Statewide Health Improvement Program, Minnesota Department of Health

**For more information**

Nicole MartinRogers, Wilder Research  
651-280-2682, nicole.martinrogers@wilder.org

Carol Biren, Southwest Health and Human Services  
507-532-4136, carol.biren@swmhhs.com